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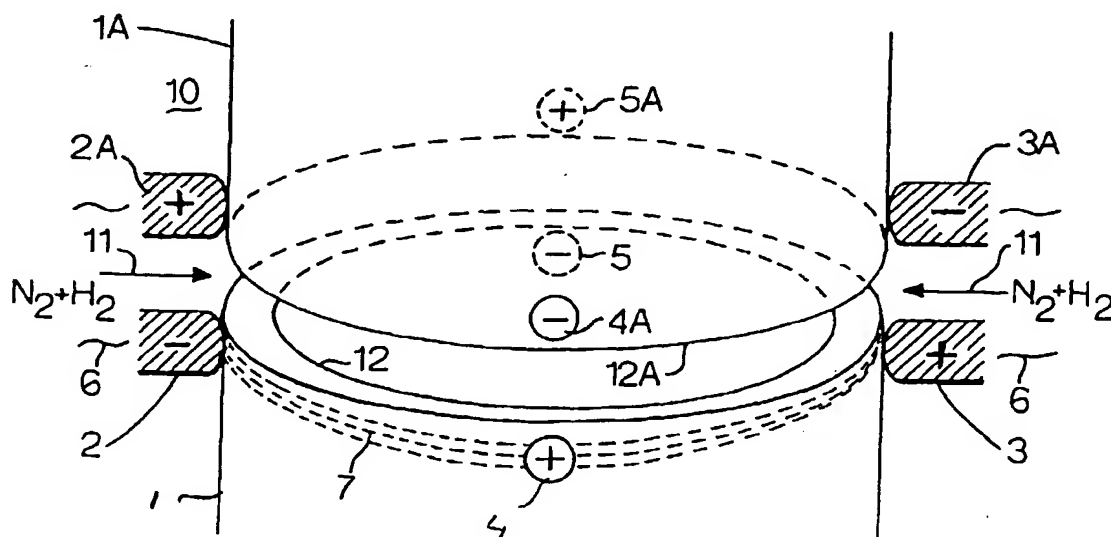
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTING TUBULARS BY FORGE WELDING



(57) Abstract: A method for interconnecting tubulars by forge welding comprises: arranging the tubular ends (12, 12A) that are to be interconnected at a distance up to a few millimeters from each other in a shield gas chamber, into which a reducing non-explosive flushing fluid mixture (e.g.  $N_2 + H_2$ ) is injected; heating each tubular end (12, 12A) within said space by means of at least three electrodes (2-5, 2A-5A) that are pressed at circumferentially spaced intervals against the wall of each tubular (1, 1A) adjacent to the tubular end (12, 12A) such that a high frequency electrical current (7) is transmitted in a substantially circumferential direction through the tubular segments between the electrodes (2-5, 2A-5A); and moving the thus uniformly heated tubular ends (12, 12A) towards each other until a forge weld is formed between the heated tubular ends (12, 12A).